



"THE CARE OF HUMAN LIFE AND HAPPINESS, AND NOT THEIR DESTRUCTION, IS THE ONLY LEGITIMATE OBJECT OF GOOD GOVERNMENT."

-THOMAS JEFFERSON

The Informer

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The Tennessee National Guard Counterdrug Task Force

Making a Difference in Tennessee



National Guard Plays Vital Role Against Tennessee's Drug Threat

Major General Gus Hargett, Jr.
The Adjutant General of Tennessee

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform you of the good things your National Guard is doing to combat the drug threat in Tennessee. As you know, Tennessee ranks third in the nation for Marijuana and third for Methamphetamine production. Our Soldiers and Airmen are committed to battling these and other illicit drugs through the support they provide on a daily basis. We provide support to law enforcement agencies, community organizations, and school systems from Johnson City to Memphis at no cost.

Many of these agencies lack the funding and manpower to make a real difference without our help. I believe, as do they, that we are making that difference. This newsletter will be published monthly for your benefit to show you first hand what a difference the Citizen-Soldier can truly make.

Sincerely,

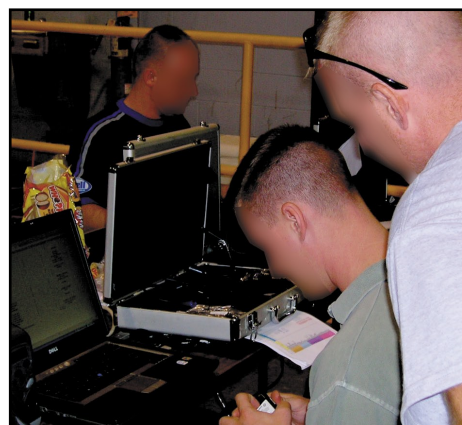
Statewide Effort Makes Round-up a Huge Success

By CDTF Criminal Analyst
Johnson City

On 22 September 2007, a six year investigation culminated in the indictment of 31 suspects and arrest of 24 of the accused drug traffickers. When the call came in from the DEA to the Counterdrug Task Force for support, we were more than willing to answer.

Nine Counterdrug Criminal Analysts from offices in Nashville, Memphis, Jackson, Knoxville, Chattanooga and Johnson City, as well as five Ground Interdiction soldiers from Jackson and the Nashville area, not only participated in the warrant service, but were an integral part of its success. Our Criminal Analysts were placed with teams in the field, helping them to process information where the suspects were arrested in order to support the lengthy task of logging evidence.

Following the operation, over 150 cellular devices were logged as evidence. Counterdrug personnel, utilizing the latest in mobile phone forensics technology and good old fashioned investigative



NG Analysts download and analyze cell phones for DEA

work, dumped the phones for valuable evidence that will serve in the prosecution of the indicted suspects and possibly the instigation of new drug trafficking cases.

The operation took place in Davidson, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson, and Wilson Counties. At the end of the day, approximately \$150,000 in cash and \$6 million in property was seized along with the 24 arrests that were made.

Education Emphasis

By Lieutenant Colonel Byron Deel
Commander, CDTF

The Tennessee National Guard Counterdrug Task Force supports local schools, community organizations, and local, state, and federal law enforcement. We have the distinction of being the sixth largest program in the nation according to the number of soldiers and airmen we have working with us. Our sole reason for existing is to provide support in the areas of manpower, expertise, and equipment in the war on drugs.

Our Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) program is the largest in the nation and has as its primary focus, the implementation of an anti-drug middle school curriculum. "Stay On Track" uses motor sports as a theme to teach 6th, 7th and 8th grade students the important skills of making good decisions when it comes to drug use. We currently have 23 soldiers and airmen across the state presenting weekly lessons in a variety of city and county school systems.

In addition to our education program for school children, we are also active in educational opportunities for various police and sheriff's departments. In the past year, we provided Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certified classes to 581 officers across the state. The classes will assist these officers in dealing with drug related crimes.

Each month we will delve into the different aspects of our Task Force and the multitude of support we provide to the state on a daily basis. I hope you find this newsletter informative and thank you again for your support of the Tennessee National Guard.



Commander, Counterdrug Task Force

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Drug Education.....2
Drug Interdiction.....4

DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION

Drug Demand Reduction Vital to TN Communities

By Captain Linda Williams
DDR Administrator

The Tennessee National Guard Counter Drug Task Force is at the forefront of the effort to reduce drug use among young people. We provide instructors, mentors, advisors, and other resources that are vital to this effort. There are 23 personnel that make up our Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) program; these individuals are composed of both Army and Air Guard personnel. We reach over 100,000 Tennesseans to include both adult and youth audiences about the dangers of Drug and Alcohol abuse on a yearly basis. Our goal is to provide education assistance to different organizations in every county in Tennessee concerning Drugs and Alcohol.

For School Year 2008, we implemented the "Stay on Track" program in over 50 middle schools across our great state. This program is comprised of 12 lessons

that are taught by our National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Specialists. All student workbooks and instructors are provided at no cost to the school. In addition to this, we offer a variety of other programs that can be tailored to meet the needs of the community. Some of these include drug awareness briefings, team building programs, and Drug Education Trailers.

Each month, this newsletter will highlight the variety of support we provide to Tennessee's communities and schools. It will also provide you with any upcoming events in your district. I encourage you to call our office for more information on our programs and upcoming drug awareness events. We are a force multiplier in the arena of drug awareness and education that's making a difference in Tennessee.

DDR Administrator



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FY 2007 STATS

Tennesseans Reached

Elementary School.....	24,882
Middle School.....	48,869
High School.....	35,804
College/University.....	5,523
Adults.....	44,708
Total.....	159,786

Summer Camp Success

By Captain Linda Williams
DDR Administrator

From May 26th to July 26th, our Drug Demand Reduction program supported 13 anti-drug youth camps. Three of these camps supported local county juvenile courts; to include McMinn, Bledsoe and Rhea Counties. The three juvenile court camps hosted over fifty at-risk youth who were first time offenders facing jail time. The other camps supported from 60 to 120 kids each. Some of the other agencies supported with youth camps were the YMCA(USSAA), Weed and Seed, Tennessee National Guard Kids, and UT Chattanooga. The youth camps promote team work, discipline, and a drug-free life style.



Pvt. 1st Class Michael Helton speaks with 6th graders on the dangers of drugs.

Van Buren County Gets on Track with SOT

By Monica Howard
Coordinated School Health Coordinator
Van Buren County

Van Buren County High School is proud to announce that we are hosting the Stay On Track Program, which is sponsored by the National Guard. Stay on Track is an Evidence Based program for development and evaluation. The classes include topics such as Health Education, Decision-Making, Communication Skills, and Media Influences. Within these topics there is an emphasis put on drug and alcohol education.

Private Michael Helton of the Tennessee National Guard Counter Drug Division is teaching this program to the sixth grade for a twelve-week period. Principal Phyllis Sullivan feels that we are very fortunate to have the National Guard come into our school system to educate our students on good decision-making skills where health, drugs, alcohol, and good life choices are concerned. This program is funded by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and is offered free to school systems.

Photo by Monica Howard

Patriotic Events Give Boost to Anti-Drug Message from Murfreesboro to Memphis



Photo by Captain David Roberts

Staff Sgt. Terry Winnette and Sgt. Rhea Amaro stand ready to brief at the Drug Trailer

9-11 Tribute in Rutherford Co.

By Staff Sgt. Terry Winnette
DDR Representative

The Rutherford County Sheriff's Department sponsored the 6th Annual 9-11 Memorial Event last month. The event drew thousands of people from Murfreesboro and surrounding areas of Rutherford County and provided an excellent venue for the Drug Awareness Trailer. The Drug Awareness Trailer is a walk through, mobile platform that educates the public on the dangers of drug use through its exhibits. The trailer also displays materials used in meth production to help people identify the signs of meth labs in their communities. It was a very positive and patriotic event where both the trailer and our anti-drug message were well received.

Counterdrug Task Force Brings Attention to Anti-Drug Message at Guard Event in Memphis

By Captain David Roberts
Public Affairs Officer

This past summer I had the privilege of supporting a tribute to the National Guard at the FedEx Forum in Memphis. In such events, Soldiers and Airmen have an ever increasing span of influence while wearing the uniform, especially when rappelling 160 feet in front of a large crowd. As our influence increases, with it comes the responsibility to make a positive impact on our neighbors and fellow citizens. That could truly be seen that night as we brought down the game ball. These types of events bring recognition to our program and emphasize our mission of drug awareness and prevention. Making a positive influence on others in the war on drugs is a very rewarding part of being a Tennessee Citizen-Soldier.

Roane Co. Grant Granted

By Tech. Sgt. James Tarver
DDR Representative

The Counterdrug Task Force supported the Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition in May in their efforts to obtain a grant through the Office on National Drug Control Policy. We received word several weeks ago that the coalition was awarded the grant. The grant funds \$100,000 the first two years and \$125,000 the next three. This will help the coalition provide a staff for the next five years. The Roane County Coalition was very appreciative of the critical role played by the Counterdrug Task Force.



Photo by Captain Darrin Haas

Two Counterdrug Task Force Soldiers rappel 160 feet during a UT Memphis basketball game

DRUG INTERDICTION

Full Time Criminal Analyst Support

By the Criminal Analysis Officer
Counterdrug Task Force

The analytical support we provide to law enforcement results in eliminating drugs and drug trafficking organizations in Tennessee. Our Criminal Analysts support officers on a day to day basis because they are assigned directly to the agencies they support. This is very rewarding for the Analyst, who sees the direct fruits of their labor; drugs off the streets and drug traffickers imprisoned. This valuable support contributes to protecting our future and communities.

Our Analysts have expertise in criminal and information databases, specialized communications and electronics equipment, and analytical specific software in order to identify, track and illustrate the many facets of drug related

actions. The agencies we support rely on us to help with their workload by meshing our specialized skills with their law enforcement sensitive information.

Currently, our Criminal Analysts are assigned to the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, the Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, the Tennessee Methamphetamine Task Force, the Immigration Customs Enforcement, the West Tennessee Violent Crimes & Drug Task Force and Homeland Security. In addition to having our Analysts assigned to agencies from Johnson City to Memphis, we also assist other offices in their surrounding areas on a project by project basis.



Eyes in The Skies

By the Aviation Officer
Counterdrug Task Force

The Counterdrug Aviation Detachment (CD AVN) is comprised of four OH-58 helicopters. These aircraft support law enforcement conducting reconnaissance, security, and command and control operations.

In FY 2007, we supported a number of law enforcement agencies in a variety of missions. Early in the year, we provided aerial reconnaissance and a command and control platform for the U.S. Marshals Service. Over 30 outstanding drug warrants were cleared, and over 20 hours of flight time were logged in support of the mission. During the fall, winter, and spring months, 33 missions were supported, several of which included multiple flights on multiple days, with over 130 hours of flight time logged. During these missions, we also provided a platform for photo reconnaissance, command and control, and aerial reconnaissance.

We flew 850 hours from June through September in support of the Governor's Task Force for Marijuana Eradication. Our Aviation Detachment has supported the Governor's Task Force every year since 1989.

Ground Operations and Training

By the Ground Operations Sergeant
Counterdrug Task Force

Our Ground Operations consist of providing a variety of support to law enforcement for drug interdiction. This can range from ground reconnaissance to Light Armored Vehicle transport to providing POST certified training to law enforcement agencies.

The Counterdrug Task Force provides specially trained personnel with the knowledge and equipment to support ground reconnaissance. Our recon personnel operate in a support role and provide a level of expertise that is invaluable for drug investigations.

The Light Armored Vehicle (LAV) is used to train and transport law enforcement agents on high risk drug warrants. The LAV increases officer safety and can also be used as a command and control platform.

We also provide a unique and valuable support tool by providing a multitude of POST certified training to law enforcement at no cost. A total of 581 officers were trained from across Tennessee in FY 07. Each month we will provide you with updates on training throughout the state as well as what interdiction support was provided to Tennessee's law enforcement agencies.

FY 2007 SEIZURES

** Seizure information is from drug cases that were supported by the Counterdrug Task Force through Criminal Analysis, Ground or Aerial Reconnaissance.

Cocaine (lbs.).....	707.5
Meth (lbs.).....	26.8
Heroin (lbs.).....	308.6
Other drugs (lbs.).....	1,333
Vehicles.....	98
Weapons.....	168
Marijuana (plants).....	167,220
Processed Marijuana (lbs.).....	14,852.4
Other Drugs (pills).....	7,307
Ecstasy (pills).....	23,819
Currency.....	\$5,744,033
Property(\$vaule).....	\$332,170
Arrests.....	1,617

